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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

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1. Since October 1950 government officials in public meetings have emphasized to the Albanian people that Yugoslavia, Italy and Greece are about to attack Albania and that Albania must fight to the last man. According to an informant, government officials are becoming very nervous and special security measures are being put into effect.
2. During October 1950 the police were supplied with Soviet sub-machine guns. Previously, the police had gone about singly and unarmed, but now they are always armed in groups of two or three. They are setting up patrols and observation posts near the villages in order to watch the movements of strangers. Families of Northern Epirots are also reported to have been arrested.
3. About the middle of October 1950 three airplanes scattered handbills at night, bearing the "signature" of ex-King Zog, in the area of Gjinokaster, Dhimri, Delvine and Sarande. Although the police tried to prevent their being read, the handbills reportedly had a tremendous effect upon the morale of the population.
4. An informant reported in mid-November 1950 that men amounting in numbers to the strength of one battalion are constructing trenches and concrete machine gun positions in the following locations: north of Lum i Bistrikes; near Brailat; Hill 556 (R. 420-845) (sic); near Kostar; Mal i Finikut; Gjashte, as far as the hill overlooking the monastery at Sarande. A heavy gun was moved on 15 November 1950 from Gjashte to the monastery at Sarande.

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